



Brownfields 2017 Area-Wide Planning Grant Fact Sheet

Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments, Charleston and North Charleston, SC

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through competitive grant programs for brownfields site assessment, site cleanup, revolving loan funds, area-wide planning, and job training. Additional funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

EPA's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program assists communities in responding to local brownfields challenges, particularly where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings. This program enhances EPA's core brownfields assistance programs by providing grant funding to communities so they can perform the research needed to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategies for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. The resulting area-wide plans provide direction for future brownfields area improvements that are protective of public health and the environment, economically viable, and reflective of the community's vision for the area.

Project Description

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant recipient. The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the Neck area of Charleston and North Charleston, an environmental justice community that has an extraordinarily high density of brownfields and other environmentally impaired properties. The area-wide plan is expected to advance critical planning and strategic actions necessary to resolve identified infrastructure issues, such as poor drainage, deteriorating streets, and traffic. It also will address remediation and revitalization needs of brownfield sites, and encourage and support existing and new businesses in developing and promoting a positive economic image for the community. Prioritization and sequencing of site redevelopment activities at five key catalyst sites will be performed. Site criteria also will be developed to maximize integration of green and healthy design, promote sustainable development compatible with future site use within the surrounding area, lessen the impact to surface waters of the Cooper and Ashley Rivers, and ensure living-wage job creation. Key partners who will work with the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments on this project include the Sustainability Institute, Metanoia, St. Peters African Methodist Episcopal Church, South Carolina Community Loan Fund, South Carolina State Ports Authority, Charleston County, and

Cities of Charleston and North Charleston.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team

(215) 814-3173

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Web site

(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-alabama-florida-georgia-kentucky-mississippi-north-0>)

Grant Recipient: Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments, SC

(843) 529-0400

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.